

May 31, 1987

Dear Harold,

My apologies for not replying sooner to your letter of April 23. I hoped to get around to a proper reply within a couple of weeks, but I have been completely swamped, mostly because of my extra work on campus. My boss retired in January (at age 55!) and I've taken over her duties, involving all sorts of complicated things like hiring someone to replace ~~xxxx~~ her. So I've been ~~xxx~~ practically off the case for several months; I haven't been able to finish up an issue of EOC which I mostly did in March. I've ordered a computer for my home office, which I hope will help me keep up - if I can find a place to put it!

I don't have a separate file on Alvarado Ugarte, or a complete list of documents. The specific ~~xxx~~ incidents you mentioned do not ring any bells, so I would have to look at all the documents myself. The best I can do at the moment is the enclosed guide (by subject) to the original CIA release. (Pp. 1-3 and 8, enclosed, seem to cover the topics you asked about.) Unfortunately, this first batch used the old CIA numbering system - what I called 288 is now 3667-288, or something like that.

I also have, somewhere, the State Department file of ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ cables, mostly to and from Mann, relating to Alvarado.

I don't recall seeing anything in the documents about Duran being roughed up, although I recall rumors to that effect from the time of the HSCA investigation.

I did check my file on the FBI's Little Rock release, for the post-assassination instructions you asked about. I had specifically asked only for the pre-assassination file, and that's all they sent me; I think they gave you the post-assassination records at the same time, assuming that you would ask for them sooner or later. The memo you ~~xxx~~ described does not sound ~~xxx~~ familiar.

Likewise, "Operation Strongback" rings no bells, although I think Peter Scott may have written something about Oswald's possible role in it.

If you have gotten the documents from other sources, please let me know; otherwise, I'll take a ~~xxxxxx~~ look for them as soon as I can.

Thanks for filling me in on your news. I saw a copy of Ray's book for a few minutes when Bud was here a couple of weeks ago - it's always nice to see him. ~~XM~~ (Bud, not Ray.) I see that Bud's work with the Larouche people has finally made the papers. I had not heard that Gandolfo has a book on the HSCA. The fact that he seems to be Garrison's man among the critics is scary enough. I have not been in touch with Wecht for many years, and will write to see what he has ~~xxx~~ planned for the 25th anniversary. I also haven't heard much from Henry, except that his paperback will be coming out.

With hasty regards,

*Paul*